

May 25, 1967

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — APPENDIX

Secretary Dean Rusk at Erskine College

SPEECH

HON. WM. JENNINGS BRYAN DORR
OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, May 24, 1967

Mr. DORN. Mr. Speaker, Erskine College at Due West, S.C., in my congressional district, was fortunate to have Secretary of State Dean Rusk deliver the inaugural address when Dr. Joseph Wightman became president on April 25. This day was one of the greatest in the history of Erskine and indeed in the history of South Carolina.

Drexel is the only Associate Reformed Presbyterian College in the world and is a truly magnificent example of higher education in a beautiful setting of yesterday, molding intellect and character to meet the needs of tomorrow.

Our own great distinguished colleague in this Congress, the Honorable Tom Gettys and his lovely wife, Mary Phillips Gettys, are graduates of this outstanding institution.

Mr. Speaker, I commend to the Congress, to the academic community, and to all of our people the superb and timely address of Secretary Rusk:

ADDRESS BY HON. DEAN RUSK AT ERSKINE
COLLEGE, DUE WEST, S.C., APRIL 29, 1967

MODERATOR: Friends of Erskine College, our guest speaker has honored President Wigatman, Erskine College and the state of South Carolina by his presence today. We are grateful to him for taking this time from his busy schedule. Secretary Rusk is a native of Georgia and he was graduated from Davidson College, where he majored in Political Science and played on the basketball team.

Dr. Graham Martin, who is with us today, now President of Davidson College, was a classmate of Secretary Rusk. Erskine played basketball twice while Secretary Rusk was on the team. Several who played on the Erskine team, including one of our own Board members, Evan Reed, are with us today. I might add that Erskine won the game in 1930 (laughter and applause) by a score of 32 to 27. Secretary Rusk was high scorer, with 13 points. (Applause.)

To be fair, and because he follows me later, I must say that Davidson won the 1931 game by a score of 37 to 23.

Winning a Rhodes scholarship, he studied philosophy, politics and economics at St. Johns College, Oxford, from 1931 to 1934. While at Oxford, he wrote an essay which was awarded the Cecil Peace Prize. Dr. Wightman also attended Oxford and graduated from Oxford in 1938. It was at Oxford that Secretary Rusk and Dr. Wightman had the same tutor, Dr. William Conrad Costin. Secretary Rusk is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and his keen interest in education is evidenced by the fact that he has been awarded honorary doctoral degrees by 13 colleges and universities.

As you will observe, he scored 13 points against us, and he has 18 honorary degrees, but Erskine will break this tie today. (Laughter.)

Secretary Rusk has devoted his life to public service. Accomplishment of his long period of unselfish service, as an educator, soldier, and statesman are well known. His manner, patient and tact in the pursuit of world peace is appreciated by all. It is my distinct honor to present the Honorable Dean Rusk, Secretary of State. (Applauds.)

Secretary of State Dean Rusk. Mr. Watts, President Wigglesman, members and distinguished guests of the scholarly community of Washington, D. C. and of the great, illustrious University of Michigan. I am delighted to have the honor of introducing Joseph Wigglesman as your next President. I would gladly turn my time to the Chancellors, if they would let me. (Laughter.) But I want to thank you for the warm welcome that you have given me on this campus and in this community. There are moments when that is especially appreciated by a Secretary of State. (The crowd)

A few days ago I was on my way to a large university to make a speech and about 80 minutes out of the city I entered a tower sent me a message saying that over a thousand people had gathered at the Secretary. Well I wasn't going to go so I sent a message back saying that over a thousand people had gathered at the Secretary. I was told that the Secretary was not going to go.

In a few minutes I had read the message, we've had a round of three are only 53— come on in, the parties are friendly, (daughter.) I'm very happy to be here on this platform, with three very distinguished members of your congressional delegation in Washington, who read and signed labor there for you and for your nation's Senator Thurmond, and your own Congressman Dorn from this District, your own Congressman Gettys, distinguished alumnus of this college. I'm happy to be at Eakline. We had many ties with Eakline College over the years, through family and friends, and come in a while on a basketball court. I have some satisfaction that my lifetime record against Eakline is 1 and 1. That should lead to some harmony here today.

today. But in any event, Davidson and Brakine have learned a good deal over the years about how to lose sporting events gracefully. That's why we call it character building. (Laughter.) But to be at Brakine at a time in which you are inaugurating Joseph Wightman is a very special pleasure indeed. He and I just missed each other at St. Johns College, Oxford. In the Oxford parlance, I "went down" the year he "came up." I've been trying to think of the suitable lesson to draw from that particular expression, but I haven't been able to find one that would be of advantage to me. (Laughter.)

But W. C. Cress, that remarkable tutor, and later President of St. Johns, sent me the warmest message about how happy he was that Dr. Wightman will be the President of Erskine College, and I was put that message, along with the other mementos of this occasion—mementos of this occasion—in the record. Today I'm not going to read a speech to you. I want to talk for a few minutes, very personally, and very informally, chiefly to the young people, as though we were sitting around in groups of 10 or 12 in a faculty living room somewhere to give, you some impressions about how your Secretary of State looks at the world these days, and what he thinks about it, and what your concerns and our concerns are, and ought to be, and what they may be in the future.

I would urge you first to know that for as long as you live, we shall be in a period of breathtaking change. If a young person would ask me today, for what must I be prepared—in all honesty I would have to say, for whatever comes. And where better to learn the basic ideas for whatever comes, than in a Liberal Arts college like Erskine College. How can I illustrate that change?

In 1946 when the architects of the United Nations were instructed by the UN to build a new headquarters, they told them to prepare for 60 members, but for a possible expansion to 75. Last fall they admitted the 122nd member, to the United Nations. During each calendar year there are sessions or changes of government in at least 66 of the

countries with whom we have relations, and most of those have some bearing upon our relations between those countries and the United States. Indeed we shall find that we have met Mrs. Manning, a woman of considerable intelligence, and we shall find that she knows that CIA did not cause any of these things. (Laughter.)

We send out 1,000 cables a day from our Department, all over the world. I presume to think that most of you would agree with most of them. If you had a chance to see them, and most of them indeed are public-public information. But there is going to be dramatic change. That means that we must know how to organize our thoughts about this tempestuous world. General Omar Bradley, a very wise man, and some years ago that the time has come for us to chart our course by the distant stars and not by the light of our own little lanterns. We must have a new way of thinking about the world, and we must have a new way of thinking about the United States.

Some order in this world of human chaos, then that, what United States there shall do will be one of the dominating factors on the world scene. With so much power, so much influence, what we do makes a difference to almost everyone else.

It is necessary therefore for use to be reasonably predictable, to stay steady on course, so that not only our friends, but our potential adversaries will be able to know something about what our conduct will be. Because if we should act fitfully, without purpose, without reason, the world situation could deteriorate into chaos and violent chaos very quickly. And again, where better to look for those great central themes of policy than in a college like Lincoln. Today I shall mention two of them. The first, governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. If you think that is trite, take care—and try to improve upon it, by the way. Because this simple notion, which was derived by Thomas Jefferson and his colleagues out of at least 2,000 years of discourse on the political nature of man, serves as a scarlet thread of policy for a nation like ours, where the people rather than believe that this proposition is true. It is why we have welcomed so many new nations into the community of nations, as the colonial systems have yielded up these nationally independent units. It's why we are concerned as people, about what goes on at times behind the respective curtains. It is why we are much more intimate with democracy than we are with dictatorships in our foreign relations, why we are so deeply concerned if there are still tasks to be done, to give the great promises of our Declaration of Independence and our Constitution to all of our citizens here at home.

Governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. I have frequently said to incoming ambassadors, coming into Washington to represent their countries, that if they want to know how to predict with reasonable accuracy the attitudes of the American people toward a great variety of events in the course of a year, just to keep their eyes on that rather simple proposition. Second—and I want to dwell on this for a few minutes—the necessity for the organization of a durable peace. At least half of my listeners today can no longer remember World War II. And fewer than that can remember the events which led up to World War II. One of my concerns is that, as we put more time between that struggle and our day, the great central question of 1945 will slip into the background and we shall be negligent and careless about it, because that great central question was, the organization of a durable peace.

The lessons learned from that war are written into Article I of the United Nations Charter. And I would hope that many of you would take a little extra time to read over once again, that Article I, but this time a

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